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## BOOK REVIEW

BELLAMY, C. L. 2002. **Coleoptera: Buprestoidea.** In **Houston, W. W. K. (ed.) Zoological Catalogue of Australia. Vol. 29.5.** Melbourne: CSIRO Publishing, Australia, xii + 492 pp., 4 color plates. Price 140 (AU); hardbound.

I have been a collector of Buprestidae for almost 50 years, have specialized and researched the family for almost 40 years. From the beginning of my interest I have fantasized travelling to collect them in Australia, which is a jewel beetle wonderland. What student of them has not harbored (or acted upon) such a desire? Whether your interest in Australian Buprestidae is that of an amateur or professional, or if you are a manager or curator of a collection with such holdings, this catalogue is for you. It contains a veritable wealth of information carefully put together by an author with comprehensive and hands-on expertise with his subject.

According to the editorial preface for this series of zoological catalogues, arrangement of genera and species is alphabetical within divisions down to the tribal level. However, in this volume the arrangement falls under subtribes. In my opinion such "fine tuning" benefits few readers and should have been left to the summarized classificatory scheme. Nevertheless, this and any other aspects of phylogenetic arrangement that might concern the reader are more than compensated by the comprehensive taxonomic index, which should make this catalogue very easy to use.

The author of the catalogue provided a brief yet comprehensive introduction to the Buprestoidea and Buprestidae (Schizopodidae are absent from Australia), including such topics as classification, distribution, extracontinental relationships, and host associations. An extensive list of references was provided.

Species treatments include type data (also for synonyms), distribution, ecology, and references. Concerning the latter, I feel it would have been more efficient to use the standard format of author, data, and page number rather than the full citation, which seems wasteful of space and often redundant. For me a full reference list at the end of the catalogue would be more useful. Also, I think that Appendix I (abbreviations and symbols) and Appendix II (museum acronyms) should have prefaced the catalogue instead. The wonderful and detailed color illustrations (plates 1–4) by André Olwage are a delight, even though to my eye they appear a shade too darkly reproduced. My criticisms are minor, likely but a personal preference. The plusses of the catalogue render them almost moot. This volume belongs on the shelf of anyone with an interest in or need to arrange a collection of the astounding buprestid fauna of "OZ"!

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